Availability of study materials on the Internet

†111. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to make available all types of books of higher education and important research documents on various subjects and journals on the Internet, so that students and teachers could download any of these contents as per their requirement, on payment of nominal charges;

(b) whether in view of this, any plan is under consideration of Government to provide computers to the colleges on half price; and

(c) whether any plan for providing free broad-band connection at the residence of the teachers is under consideration in the University Grants Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has a scheme namely 'UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme' to provide for networking of university campus with state-of-art campus wide networks and recurring costs on Internet bandwidth. UGC also has another scheme namely 'UGC Infonet Digital Library Consortium' to provide for access to more than 5000 electronic journals and three major bibliographic database under this initiative.

(b) UGC has provided financial assistance to 3486 colleges so far under the Scheme of Establishment of Network Resource Centre (UGC-NRC) in colleges during X Plan period, which are eligible to receive financial assistance under Section 2(f) & 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956. The assistance is provided for the purchase of computers and also for Internet Connectivity for an amount of Rs. 1,50,000/- towards purchase of Computers and Rs. 10,000/- per annum for Internet Connectivity, for the first time and Rs. 50,000/- for Computers and Rs. 10,000/- per annum for Internet Connectivity, for the second time.

(c) There is no such plan at present.

Implementation of e-courts project

112. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of implemenation of e-courts project in the country;

(b) whether it would interlink all the courts across the country and help the litigants to have access to authorized documents; and

(c) the details of the districts where it is proposed to be implemented in the first phase and the time-frame within which all the districts in Orissa would be covered under this project?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The e-courts project was approved by Government of India in February, 2007 and the first phase is already under implementation. National Informatics Centre (NIC) which is the implementing agency for this project has reported that hitherto, laptops to 12155 judges across the country have been provided and around 13000 laser printers are getting delivered for those laptops. Three months' training on the usage of computers has already begun and so far 8700 judicial

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi